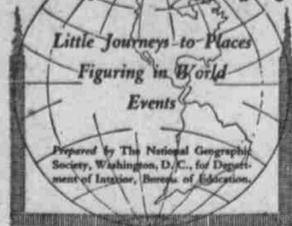


Today's Geography



MANILA: KANSAS CITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

In connection with the continued discussion of independence for the Philippines the capital city of the islands, Manila becomes of special interest.

As a transport wends inward from the China sea, it passes the island of Corregidor, beyond which stretches Manila bay, whose 120-mile circumference could surround the navies of the world. Its rival will not be found in the far East. On the right of its entrance stands Cavite, where Dewey sank the Spanish fleet.

From the bay the city of Manila seems to lie almost at water level with busy mountains for a background. Before the United States came to the islands Manila was a sleepy town, sprawled lazily beyond the bay and the wharves of the river Pasig, which bisects it. Its streets were quiet and almost deserted at times, its suburbs shady and pretty, and a general air of "manana" pervaded its atmosphere.

Today its estimated population equals that of Jersey City, Indianapolis or Kansas City; the river is alive with launches and vessels of every description, including the houseboats of a literally floating population of fifteen thousand; and through its port it sends yearly to other countries nearly a hundred million dollars' worth of hemp, sugar, copra, tobacco and other commodities.

A unique sight in Manila is the Pacer cemetery, which at present has fallen into disuse. It is composed of two concentric walls about six feet thick, honeycombed with holes just large enough for a coffin. In the olden days these were leased for periods of five years. At the end of that time if no one was sufficiently interested in the remains of an inmate to pay his rent for another five years his bones were thrown on a heap at the back of the cemetery. Imagine the "shimmy" the flesh on an ancestor-worshipping Chinaman's backbone would perform should he behold the queue of one of his progenitors protruding from this Golgotha.

Out from the walled city near the bay shore is Luneta, a small amusement park, and Wallace field, used for sports and the annual carnival. In the days of Spanish rule Wallace field was an execution ground for political prisoners, and here Dr. Jose Rizal, the Filipino surgeon, novelist and patriot, was executed.

Manila's chief shopping district is north of the river, and enterprising Filipinos, Americans and Chinese have set up stores, banks, factories and restaurants, giving this portion of the city an up-and-doing air.

WHAT'S IN THE NAME "AMERICA"

Millions sing "America"; comparatively few know the origin of the name. Its history and its symbolism are described in a communication to the National Geographic society by John H. Finley as follows:

"America"—a name that was first heard on the planet, or at any rate first put on a printed page, according to the best authorities, in the village of St. Die, among the Vosges mountains in the east of France, often called the baptismal font of America.

"On a pilgrimage to this valley of the Vosges some years ago, I found still standing the cloisters where the scholars had lived who wrote 'The Introduction to Ptolemy's Cosmography'—the book in which it was suggested that the name 'America' be given to the newly-discovered fourth continent—and who prepared the now famous map on which the emerging continent was identified. There, too, I found the site of the old printing shop, and the house itself in which the printer, Jean Basin, had lived.

"At the beginning of the war the Germans had occupied it, and in 1917 their guns looked down upon it from the 'blue line of the Vosges.' The cloisters, close under the mountains, I found in a recent and second pilgrimage had not been damaged, but there were many houses that had been destroyed by shell or by wanton fire, though Jean Basin's was still standing.

"Europe could not readily forget the geography of its infancy and childhood, but America began from its God-fearing settlement with an astronomy of infinite distances, with a geography partaking of the sky as well as of the sea and land.

"As there was no feudal system of society for America to unlearn, beginning as it did with the 'compact' and 'constitutional,' so there was no physical theory of the universe for it to abandon. It was democratic and Copernican from its first national consciousness.

"With this Copernican consciousness of the universe, America should be the least provincial of the continents, for Asia and Africa, as well as Europe, still remember the old cosmography and in some darker regions still cling to it."

BARBADOS: ISLAND OF VAST RESOURCES

Barbados is one of the most interesting and least known of the possessions of Great Britain.

Pear-shaped, solitary, farthest east of the West Indies, Barbados generally is accounted the most healthful of the group, even though it is the most populous country in the world, per square mile, except China, and George Washington carried to his grave the marks of smallpox contracted on a visit there.

The island—there is but one despite the misleading plural name—is but an eighth the size of our Rhode Island, but has twice as many inhabitants per square mile as our smallest and most densely populated state.

Seldom does a volcano become an asset, but volcanic eruptions have contributed largely to the fertility of Barbados. When the sun was obscured throughout one day in May, 1912, the Barbadians were panic-stricken, but when the gentle rain of black dust subsided, the deposit was found to be ashes from an eruption of St. Vincent Soufriere, nearly 100 miles to the west, which enriched the soil.

Long before that time, though, Barbados was productive. Oldest of British colonial possessions except Newfoundland, it also was the first place in the British empire where sugar cane was planted. Its average crop of this now high-priced commodity is 50,000 tons. It also has 2,000 acres planted in sea-island or long-staple cotton; raises 40,000 bunches yearly of the Chinese banana, and exports molasses.

One phenomenon of Barbados has not been accounted for. For years the so-called "Barbados Coffin Story" furnished a mystery which would interest present-day psychic investigators. In the yard of a church near Oistin's Town is a churchyard burial vault, hewn from rock and arched with cemented stone. A woman was buried there in a lead coffin, according to Barbadian custom. Several years later when the vault was opened again to receive another body, the coffin had been removed from its original position. Upon the second occasion special precautions were taken to seal the vault. Several times thereafter, though seals were unbroken and there seemed no other mode of entering the solid rock and masonry, the coffins were displaced. Finally the mouth of the vault was cemented, and when it was time to receive another body officials of the island and an immense crowd gathered for the ceremony. Once more all the lead caskets were found to have been disturbed and the family had their dead removed to another burying ground. No satisfactory solution of these strange occurrences has been offered.

A natural curiosity of Barbados is the "Animal Flower Cave," the so-called flowers being sea worms. Not so agreeable are the Mauchneel, or poison trees, along the shores, whose leaves blister the skin and contaminate the water.

WHAT IS THE UKRAINE?

In the heart of the Ukrainian territory Poles and Ukrainians participated in a struggle with the Bolsheviks.

"What is the Ukraine? The Poles and the Lithuanians of a few centuries ago knew well this most turbulent section over which they attempted to rule, and imperial Russia for a long time was greatly troubled by this very unruly part of her expansive domain. The Tatars and the Turks felt its proximity because of the many raids made upon them by the wild warriors of the steppes," says Nevil O. Winter in a communication to the National Geographic society.

"The Ukraine includes southeastern Russia, with the exception of the province known as Bessarabia, which



Ukraine Peasant Girl.

partakes of the character of the Balkan states and is peopled with Roumanians and Bulgarians. The great seaport of Odessa and surrounding country have been added to it under the new alignment.

"The Ukraine does not reach much north of Kiev or east of Kharkov, but it is a large state in itself, about as large as the former German empire, with some twenty-five or thirty millions of people living in it.

"There is a lure about the limitless stretches of the steppes in the Ukraine. In wide, level spaces, or in gentle undulations, they reach out un-

til sky and horizon meet in a barely perceptible line. Parts of it remind one very much of our own western prairies. In spring and summer it is an ocean of verdure, with the varied shades of green of the growing vegetation interspersed with flowers of many hues; later, in the autumn after the crops are harvested, it becomes a brown waste of stubble and burned-up pastures; in winter it is a white, glistening expanse of snow.

"There are not many old towns in the Ukraine. Except in Kiev and Kharkov, one will hardly find a building more than a hundred years old. No old medieval churches built up by the toil of generations of devout hands, no old chateaux of the nobility, no palaces rich in pictures will be encountered. The great majority of the towns are still big, overgrown villages.

"The towns are separated from each other by enormous distances, with imperfect communication. The peasants plant their villages in the lee of some swell in the surface or by the edge of a stream in which they can water their flocks during the drought which may come."

SOME BIG GAME OF THREE MILLION YEARS AGO

Speaking of the brontosaurus, if any one ever did, one might paraphrase Gelett Burgess:

"I never saw a dinosaur,
I never hope to see one."

Yet, according to reports from African explorers a live dinosaur, a brontosaurus has been found in Africa.

Now that the dinosaur is with us, potentially, big game enthusiasts will be interested in this description of prehistoric big game, quoted from a communication to the National Geographic society by Barnum Brown:

"Today we must go to Africa for the biggest game; but there was a time in the dim distant past when America produced animals larger than any now living. That was so long ago that nothing remains of these creatures except their bones, and they are turned to stone.

"The animals are dinosaurs; for the moment we will call them lizards—not the creeping, crawling kind, but huge reptiles that stalked upright through the jungles, rivaling in size the elephant, the hippopotamus and the rhinoceros.

"The place is Alberta, Canada, and the time of their existence 3,000,000 years ago.

"In these marshes of prehistoric times dwelt a host of reptiles, some large, some small and of various forms, flesh eaters and herb eaters, but all sharing certain characters in common and known as dinosaurs. Not any were closely related to any living reptile, yet they had some characters common to the lizards, crocodiles and birds.

"Of the kinds characteristic of the period one species, a herb eater named Trachodon, was more than 30 feet long and about 15 feet high when standing erect. Its head, with broadly-expanded mouth, resembles that of a duck, but back of the beak there are more than 2,000 small teeth, disposed in many vertical rows each containing several individual teeth, the new ones coming up from below as the old ones wore out.

"The long hind legs terminated in three large-hoofed toes, and the shorter, slender front feet were partly webbed. A long, thin, slender tail acted as a powerful swimming organ, and the body was covered with rough tuberculate skin. Having no means of defense, it lived chiefly in the water, where it was free from attacks of the flesh eaters."

SEA SLEDS FOR AIRPLANES

Speed of Giant Floats Makes the Taking Off From Small Space a Matter of Ease.

Giant sea sleds capable of carrying airplanes out in midocean are being developed by a Boston concern. Some are equipped with four motors, totaling 1,750 horsepower, and have a speed of 55 miles an hour.

In the event of war with a foreign nation these sea sleds would be utilized to transport heavy bombing planes across the ocean. Thousands could be sent at a comparatively low cost.

While it is possible for an airplane to leave the deck of a sea sled, there is not sufficient room for a landing to be made. The flying machine would have to work out its own salvation once its wheels left the sled.

These sea sleds are built to lift and run on the surface of the water. When a speed of 50 miles an hour is reached it is possible for an airplane to open its motors and leave the deck without any further runway.

Experiments made off the New England coast show that a small airplane can "take off" when the sea sled is making but 40 miles an hour in a heavy sea. Other tests are being made to develop the high power planing sea sleds into pleasure craft as well as for military and naval purposes.

Gordon S. Orne of New Orleans, a wealthy sportsman, has had a 32-footer built for his use in the Gulf of Mexico. Factories have been established in Atlantic City to aid in producing the sea sleds, which are now being tested off the New England coast.

Passing True.

"The leading lady of the play made her mark in the first scene."
"Yes, I saw her do it when she leaned her powdered face on the hero's black dress coat shoulder."

Bolshevists Invade Mexico's Presidential Palace



Crowd of Bolshevists outside the presidential palace in Mexico City. They were bold enough to invade the palace, and the man in the center on horseback, holding the "Red" flag, is reported to have waved it from one of the balconies.

Irish Families Fleeing From Burning Town.



Residents of Mallow, county Cork, Ireland, fleeing with such furniture as they could save, from their town, which British troops burned and sacked in reprisal for raids by Sinn Fein sympathizers.

Society Woman Weds Policeman



Louise Q. Beavor, society woman of New York, and Thomas J. Leonard, a mounted policeman, who were wed secretly not long ago. The bride is related to many prominent families, and is a well-known horsewoman, and the groom has been a member of the Central park mounted squad for several years.

DONATES FAMOUS SWORD



Lord Garloch, only son of the thirty-third earl of Mar, premier earl of Scotland, has just presented the sword worn by "Bonnie Prince Charlie," one of the most famous and historical in Great Britain, to Mrs. Clarence Crittenden Calhoun of Washington, a descendant on her mother's side of the house of Mar. The illustration shows Lord Garloch and the sword.

Church Given by Frank J. Gould



The Gould Memorial church of the Holy Trinity, presented to the English speaking colony at Maison Lafitte, a suburb of Paris, by Frank J. Gould, the American millionaire sportsman, was consecrated recently by Bishop Ormsby of England.

FOR HOMELESS BIRDS



The girl scouts of New York city have undertaken to provide homes for the birds that wish to spend the winter there. One of them is here seen putting up a bird house in a tree in Central park.